

NUMBER

20-11-01

DATE

February 1, 2020

OF INTEREST TO

County Directors

Tribal Nation Directors

County Financial Supervisors
and Staff

Employment Service Providers

Tribal Nation Representatives

ACTION/DUE DATE

Please read information and
prepare for implementation

February 1, 2020

EXPIRATION DATE

September 30, 2020

DHS Reissues “Work Will Always Pay...With MFIP”

TOPIC

“Work Will Always Pay...With MFIP” handouts for use by eligibility workers and job counselors.

PURPOSE

Due to the January 1, 2020 minimum wage and February 1, 2020 cash grant increases, the updated handouts in this bulletin should be used by eligibility workers and job counselors when working with MFIP participants. This bulletin replaces Bulletin #19-11-05 which expires January 31, 2020.

CONTACT

Income Maintenance programs, submit policy questions to PolicyQuest.

Employment Services, submit policy questions to PolicyQuest.

SIGNED

LISA BAYLEY

Deputy Assistant Commissioner

Children and Family Services Administration

TERMINOLOGY NOTICE

The terminology used to describe people we serve has changed over time. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the use of "People First" language.

I. BACKGROUND

The “Work Will Always Pay...With MFIP” handouts were last issued in Bulletin 19-11-05. This bulletin replaces Bulletin 19-11-05.

The handouts are being updated due to the state minimum wage increase from \$9.86 per hour to \$10.00 per hour beginning January 1, 2020. The handouts are also being updated due to the \$100.00 cash grant increase effective February 1, 2020.

The revised handouts include the Earned Income Disregard, which remains at the first \$65 of earned income per wage earner plus half the remaining earned income of the assistance unit. Handouts also reflect an increase in the transitional standard, family wage level, and cash portion for all household sizes. In most households, there is a decrease in the food portion due to the cash increase. The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) co-pays have been updated based on the revised minimum gross earnings needed to exit MFIP.

In order to meet the Federal Work Participation Rate (WPR), a single caregiver whose youngest child is under six years of age must work 87 hours per month or be in other activities that count towards the required hours. The WPR requirement for a single caregiver whose youngest child is six years of age or older is 130 hours of counted activities per month. Although these charts are approximate, they may be helpful to determine how working will affect a participant’s MFIP assistance grant.

II. IMPLEMENTATION

Provide handouts to MFIP participants to help them understand the benefit of increased earnings and explain how income can be increased even more through tax credits. Advise families to take advantage of free tax preparation sites available statewide between February 1 and April 15.

III. AUTHORITY

Minnesota Statutes, section 256J.24, subdivisions 5, 5a, and 7.

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of ONE

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$867	\$1,178
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$350	\$3	\$0	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$156	\$156	\$0*	\$156	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$506	\$159	\$0	\$156	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$506	\$1,019	\$1,290	\$1,023	\$1,178
NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information,						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of TWO

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$1,303	\$1,874
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$537	\$221	\$6	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$286	\$286	\$286	\$286	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$823	\$507	\$292	\$286	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$823	\$1,367	\$1,582	\$1,589	\$1,874
<p>NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.</p>						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$26** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$1,874**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

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WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of THREE

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$1,537	\$2,360
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$632	\$338	\$123	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$412	\$412	\$412	\$412	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$1,044	\$750	\$535	\$412	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$1,044	\$1,610	\$1,825	\$1,949	\$2,360
<p>NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.</p>						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$32** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$2,360**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of FOUR

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$1,757	\$2,808
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$721	\$448	\$233	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$526	\$526	\$526	\$526	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$1,247	\$974	\$759	\$526	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$1,247	\$1,834	\$2,049	\$2,283	\$2,808
<p>NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information,</p>						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$38** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$2,808**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of FIVE

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$1,945	\$3,206
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$797	\$542	\$327	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$631	\$631	\$631	\$631	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$1,428	\$1,173	\$958	\$631	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$1,428	\$2,033	\$2,248	\$2,576	\$3,206
<p>NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.</p>						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-payment is \$45** when MFIP ends at **\$3,206**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of SIX

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$2,139	\$3,672
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$873	\$639	\$424	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$767	\$767	\$767	\$767	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$1,640	\$1,406	\$1,191	\$767	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$1,640	\$2,266	\$2,481	\$2,906	\$3,672
<p>NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.</p>						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$51** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$3,672**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of SEVEN

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$2,321	\$3,984
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$950	\$730	\$515	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$832	\$832	\$832	\$832	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$1,782	\$1,562	\$1,347	\$832	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$1,782	\$2,422	\$2,637	\$3,153	\$3,984
NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$54** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$3,984**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of EIGHT

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$2,489	\$4,382
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$1,016	\$814	\$599	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$947	\$947	\$947	\$947	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$1,963	\$1,761	\$1,546	\$947	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$1,963	\$2,621	\$2,836	\$3,436	\$4,382
<p>NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.</p>						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$60** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$4,382**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of NINE

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$2,653	\$4,776
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$1,080	\$896	\$681	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$1,062	\$1,062	\$1,062	\$1,062	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$2,142	\$1,958	\$1,743	\$1,062	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$2,142	\$2,818	\$3,033	\$3,715	\$4,776
NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$72** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$4,776**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

Have your taxes done for FREE! For a list of free tax preparation sites call the Minnesota Department of Revenue at **651-296-3781** or **1-800-652-9094**. Neighborhood Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites are available throughout the state. They are open from February 1 through April 15. Some sites are open year around to help you file back taxes. Search for free tax preparation sites at [Department of Revenue](#).

WORK WILL ALWAYS PAY...WITH MFIP

Household size of TEN

Effective 02/01/20

You want your family to have more money to live on – and MFIP helps that happen. As you earn more income, here's how much your total family income could be:

		Not working	Working 20 hours a week at \$10/hour	Working 30 hours a week at \$10/hour	60 Month clock stops if you earn at least	MFIP ends if you earn
If your monthly GROSS EARNINGS are:		\$0	\$860	\$1,290	\$2,799	\$5,158
You would get an MFIP grant of :	Cash	\$1,135	\$969	\$754	\$0 **	\$0
	Food	\$1,180	\$1,180	\$1,180	\$1,180	\$0*
	MFIP Grant	\$2,315	\$2,149	\$1,934	\$1,180	\$0
Your TOTAL family income would be:		\$2,315	\$3,009	\$3,224	\$3,979	\$5,158
NOTE: Some households are eligible for the \$110 MFIP Housing Assistance Grant. Refer to CM0013.03.09 – MFIP Housing Assistance Grant for more information.						

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits may be available when your MFIP closes.

**The 60 month time limit clock does not stop if you receive the Housing Assistance Grant. You can choose to opt-out of all cash (including the Housing Assistance Grant) if you want the clock to stop.

The **child care bi-weekly co-pay is \$94** when MFIP ends at earnings of **\$5,158**. Co-payment is effective October 7, 2019.

Be sure to apply for the federal **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Minnesota Working Family Credit (WFC)**. Getting a tax refund will **NOT** affect your eligibility for MFIP.

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Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory

This information is available in accessible formats for people with disabilities by calling (651) 431-4049 (voice) or by using your preferred relay service. For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.